

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for treating an HIV positive or AIDS patient comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a plant extract derived from an *Allium* species other than *A. sativum*, wherein said plant extract is obtained from a dehydrated *Allium* plant material that is processed after dehydration to produce particles having an average particle size ranging from about 1 to 1,400 microns.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein said *Allium* plant extract is administered orally.
3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said *Allium* plant extract is produced from an *Allium* selected from the group consisting of *A. cepa*, *A. ampeloprasum*, *A. fistulosa*, and *A. schoenoprasum*.
4. The method of Claim 3, wherein said *Allium* is *A. cepa*.
5. The method of Claim 1, which comprises daily administration of about 1 to 50 grams of said particulate *Allium* plant extract.

6. The method of Claim 1, which lengthens the latent phase of AIDS.
7. The method of Claim 1, which results in alleviation, improvement, or eradication of wasting syndrome, or other clinical symptoms associated with AIDS or HIV\* patients.
8. A method for treating or preventing viral infection in a patient in need of such treatment or prevention comprising administering a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a plant extract is obtained from a dehydrated *Allium* plant material that is processed after dehydration to produce particles having an average particle size ranging from about 1 to 1,400 microns.
9. The method of Claim 8, wherein said *Allium* extract is administered orally.
10. The method of Claim 8, wherein said viral infection is selected from the group consisting of influenza, herpes, hepatitis, parvovirus, distemper, RSV, CMV, rhinovirus, rhabdovirus, papillomavirus, Epstein Barr, and foot and mouth disease virus.

11. The method of Claim 8, wherein said *Allium* is selected from the group consisting of *A. cepa*, *A. ampeloprasum*, *A. fistulosa*, and *A. schoenoprasum*.

12. The method of Claim 9, wherein said *Allium* is *A. cepa*.

13. The method of Claim 8, wherein said particulate extract is administered orally.

14. The method of Claim 1, wherein said particulate extract is administered orally.

15. A method for promoting appetite and/or weight gain in a patient in need of such treatment, comprising administering an effective amount of a plant extract derived from an *Allium* species other than *A. sativum*, wherein said plant extract is obtained from a dehydrated *Allium* plant material that is processed after dehydration to produce particles having an average particle size ranging from about 1 to 1,400 microns.

16. A method for stimulating and/or modulating the immune system of a subject in need of such treatment comprising administering an immunostimulating and/or

immuno-modulating effect amount of a plant extract derived from an *Allium* species other than *A. sativum*, which extract is obtained from a dehydrated *Allium* plant material that is processed after dehydration to produce particles having an average particle size ranging from about 1 to 1,400 microns.

17. The method of Claim 1, which is used to boost the immune system of a subject having an immune system that is compromised by age, disease, and/or inadequate nutrition.

18. The method of Claim 16, wherein said *Allium* is selected from the group consisting of *A. cepa*, *A. ampeloprasum*, *A. fistulosa*, and *A. schoenoprasum*.

19. A method for enhancing T-cell function, proliferation and/or differentiation in a subject in need of such treatment comprising administering an effective amount of a plant extract derived from an *Allium* species other than *A. sativum*, wherein said extract is obtained from a dehydrated *Allium* plant material that is processed after dehydration to produce particles having an average particle size ranging from about 1 to 1,400 microns.

20. A method for treating microbial infection in a subject in need of such treatment comprising administering an effective amount of a plant extract derived from an *Allium* species other than *A. sativum*, which extract is obtained from a dehydrated *Allium* plant material that is processed after dehydration to produce particles having an average particle size ranging from about 1 to 1,400 microns.

21. The method of Claim 20, which is used to treat yeast infection.

22. The method of Claim 20, which is used to treat fungal infection.

23. The method of Claim 20, wherein said *Allium* is selected from the group consisting of *A. cepa*, *A. ampeloprasum*, *A. fistulosa*, and *A. schoenoprasum*.

24. The method of Claim 23, wherein said *Allium* extract is derived from *A. cepa*.

25. The method of Claim 1, which further comprises placing said patient on a restricted diet.

26. The method of Claim 1, wherein said patient is not being treated with any other anti-AIDS therapeutics.

27. A method for producing an *Allium* plant extract having antiviral, antimicrobial and/or immuno-modulating properties comprising the following steps:

- (1) obtaining an *Allium* plant material which includes at least the bulb portion of the plant, wherein said *Allium* is of a species other than *A. sativum*;
- (2) subjecting said plant material to one or more washing procedures, wherein washing is effected using a chlorinated aqueous solution;
- (3) dehydrating said washed *Allium* plant material by heating at a temperature ranging from about 80° to 110°C; and
- (4) processing said dehydrated *Allium* plant material under low humidity to produce a composition comprised of particles wherein the average particle size ranges from about 1 to 1,400 microns.

28. The method of Claim 27, wherein the washed plant material is cut into thin slices prior to dehydration.

29. The method of Claim 27, wherein the particulate composition resulting from step (4) is placed into capsules.

30. The method of Claim 27, wherein the particulate composition resulting from step (4) is used to produce suppositories tablets, or sachets.

31. The method of Claim 27, wherein the particulate composition resulting from step (4) is used to produce a liquid orally administrable formulation.

32. The method of Claim 29, wherein said tablets are coated such that they dissolve selectively in the stomach or intestine, or comprise a mixture of coated tablets that dissolve selectively in the stomach and intestine.

33. A medicinal extract derived from an *Allium* species other than *A. sativum* produced according to Claim 27.

34. The medicinal extract of Claim 33, which is obtained from *A. cepa*.

35. The medicinal extract of Claim 33, which is in the form of a powder, capsule, tablet, suppository, sachet, injectable composition, oral administrable liquid, inhalatory, aerosol, or topically administrable composition.

36. The medicinal extract of Claim 35, which comprises a tablet.

37. The medicinal extract of Claim 35, which comprises a capsule.

38. The medicinal extract of Claim 35, which comprises a suppository.